Legislation for Regulating Lotteries

*140. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY:†

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward any legislation before Parliament for regulating lotteries organised by Government agencies, including State Government agencies, under entry 40 of List I of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons for not providing proper regulatory legislation for State and Central Government lotteries, when small savings amounting to crores of rupees of the poor are being spent under the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(b) Comprehensive guidelines for regulating the conduct and operations of such lotteries had been issued to State Governments and Union Territories in June, 1984. These, inter-alia, provide for ceiling on prizes, prices of tickets and certain checks regarding printing of tickets, holding of draws.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Chandrasekhar Reddy. No supplementary... All right. Yes, Mr. Bhandare.

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Madam, I must thank the Opposition for giving me this very enviable distinction of asking the last question. May I know whether the Government would consider it advisable to have a Central legislation instead of giving guidelines to the States and Union territories as has been mentioned in the answer?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Madam, there is no proposal at present for having any Central legislation because the guidelines are there and all the State Governments and the Union territories are conforming to those guidelines.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Crisis in the textile industry in West Bengal

*121. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile industry in West Bengal is at present in deep crisis accentuated by closures, lockouts and widespread retrenchment of workers in the textile mills;

(b) if so, what are the details of the various aspects of the crisis; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to lift the industry from the morass?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (c) The following mills in West Bengal were lying closed as on 31st May, 1987:—

(1) India Linoleums Limited, (Victoria Divn.) Chusshry, Howrah.

(2) Shree Durga Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills Limited, (West Bengal).

(3) Sri Hanuman Cotton Mills, Flueshwar, Howrah.

(4) Bangodaya Cotton Mills, 24, Paraganas, Panihatti.

(5) Kesoram Industries and Cotton Mills Limited, Calcutta.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri T. Chandrasekhar Reddy.